

# Hazardous Substances Emergency Events Surveillance (HSEES) Program

Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services  
2005 HSEES Events – Quarterly Summary \*  
April 1 through June 30 (Second Quarter)

## ST. LOUIS COUNTY

	Fixed Facility	Transportation	Total
County events this quarter:	4	8	12
Statewide events this quarter:	49	48	97

### Types of Substances Released:

Acetylene  
Carbon Monoxide  
Combustible Liquid Not Otherwise Specified (NOS)  
Corrosive NOS  
Fertilizer NOS

Isopropanol NOS  
Mercury  
Paint NOS  
Sodium Hydroxide  
Toluene

**Number of Victims:** 9

**Types of Injuries Sustained:**  
Respiratory irritation

**Injury Outcomes:**  
All victims treated and released

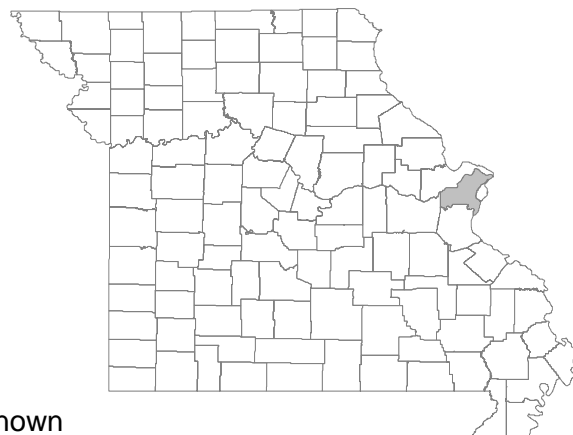
**Number of Events with Evacuations:** 2

**Number of People Evacuated:** Exact number unknown

### Interesting Events:

May 2005 – During the remodeling of a plant by contractors carbon monoxide accumulated in the area. Workers were cutting a concrete floor using a gas-powered saw and the exhaust became trapped in the sealed building. Five private contractors, three fire fighters and a police officer were overcome by carbon monoxide. All of them were treated and released from local hospitals. During this time 60 employees and private contractors were evacuated from the plant.

June 2005 – A fire at an industrial gas facility caused a chain of explosions that sent hundreds of tanks of propane and acetylene flying through the air around the facility and into a nearby residential neighborhood. More than a hundred other cylinders, which had not exploded, vented and burned through their pressure relief fuse plugs. The cause of the initial fire is unknown. The facility and a five square block area around the facility were evacuated. No one was injured. It was determined that acetylene, propane and propylene were the primary chemicals released. The fire department, law enforcement, environmental emergency response personnel, SEMA and the Department of Agriculture Weights and Measures/Propane program responded to the scene. The incident is still under investigation to try to determine the actual cause of the fire.



\* Preliminary data – subject to change